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(11) **EP 0 668 631 A3**

(12) **EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION**

(88) Date of publication A3:
16.07.1997 Bulletin 1997/29

(51) Int. Cl.⁶: **H01R 23/66**, H01R 9/07,
H01R 13/58

(43) Date of publication A2:
23.08.1995 Bulletin 1995/34

(21) Application number: **95102214.4**

(22) Date of filing: **17.02.1995**

(84) Designated Contracting States:
DE FR GB IT

(30) Priority: **22.02.1994 US 201286**

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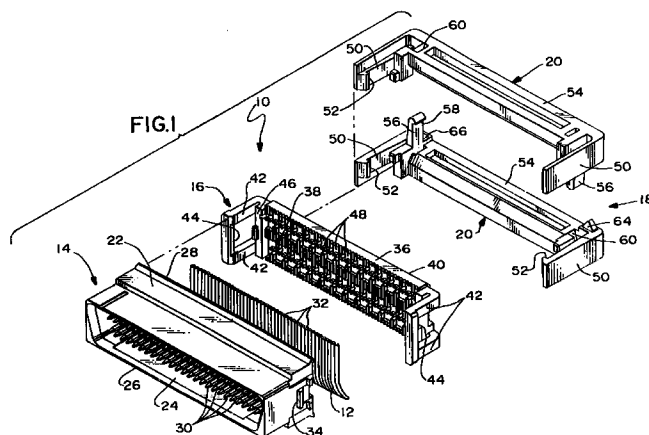
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(54) **Strain relief means in an electrical connector assembly for ribbon cable**

(57) A cable strain relief system (18) is provided for an electrical connector assembly (10) which terminates a multi-conductor ribbon cable (12). A pair of interengageable elongated strain relief members (20) clamp the ribbon cable therebetween. A flexible latch arm (50) with a latch hook (52) is provided on at least one of the strain relief members. A latch passage (60) and a latch shoulder (46) is provided on at least the other of the strain relief members for receiving the latch arm and latchingly engaging the latch hook of the one strain relief member. A rigid alignment element (64) is provided on at least one of the strain relief members, and an alignment opening (66) is provided on at least the

other of the strain relief members for receiving the rigid alignment element. The latch passage is sized to receive the latch arm and latch hook freely thereinto with the pair of strain relief members offset relative to each other, and with the latch arm in an initial unflexed condition. The rigid alignment element is adapted to be inserted into the alignment opening after the latch arm has been inserted into the latch passage to draw the offset strain relief members laterally into alignment and to guide the members into fully engaged and latched condition with the latch arm flexed and the latch hook engaged with the latch shoulder.



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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 95 10 2214

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.6)
A	EP 0 018 160 A (AMP INCORPORATED) * page 8, line 33 - page 9, column 29; figure 14 *	1-11	H01R23/66 H01R9/07 H01R13/58
A	US 4 925 401 A (FOGG ET AL.) * column 3, line 24 - column 4, line 2; figure 1 *	1,5,7,8, 11	
A	US 5 007 856 A (PUERNER) * figure 2 *	1,3,5-9, 11	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.6)
			H01R
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 9 May 1997	Examiner Kohler, J
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document			

EPO FORM 1503 03.82 (P04C01)